



TPW

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3081

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Michio SEKI et al.) Group Art Unit: 2614
Application No.: 10/602,678) Examiner: Not assigned
Filed: June 25, 2003)
For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS,) Confirmation No.: 1969
NETWORK SYSTEM, RELAY)
APPARATUS, AND STATUS)
CONTROL METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants attach a copy of the listed document. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in the attached Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

within three months of the mailing date of the Japanese Office Action. A copy of the Japanese Patent Office Action is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the attached Japanese Patent Office Action is attached. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusion set forth in the Japanese Patent Office Action.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 18, 2005

By:


Wenye Tan
Reg. No. 55,662

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by Japanese Patent Office on March 8, 2005, in Japanese Application No. 2002-188444	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.